8th March 1921]

(Agricultural Department.)

397 Q.—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: To ask the Hon'ble the Minister for Development—

(a) whether it is the policy of the Government to indianise the Agricultural Department as soon as possible, and, if so, what steps have been taken to achieve that object, and if the Government will avail themselves of the earliest opportunity to appoint an Indian as Director of Agriculture;

(b) what the proportion is of Indians to non-Indians in the Indian Agricultural Service;

(c) how many circles are in charge of Assistant Directors of Agriculture, or in additional charge of Deputy Directors, and for what periods;

(d) who the Assistant Directors are who are now acting as Deputy Directors, and how long they have been so acting; and

(e) whether the Government will consider the question of their confirmation in their present appointments if they are competent to hold them, and have hitherto discharged their duties satisfactorily.

A.—(a) It is the desire of this Government to indianise the Agricultural Department as far as practicable without detriment to efficiency. With this object in view this Government recommended to the Government of India three of their Indian officers to be drafted into the Imperial Service, but the indianisation of the Agricultural Department is a matter to be decided by the Government of India and is largely dependent on the agricultural education obtainable in India and the class of candidate forthcoming.

(b), (c) & (d) The Member is referred to the information given in the Quarterly Civil List corrected up to 1st January 1921. Subsequent to the publication of the Civil List another officer (M.R.Ry. K. Govinda Kidavu Avargal) has been appointed to act as Deputy Director from 21st November 1920.

(e) The Member is referred to the arrangements published in paragraphs 9 and 12 of Annexure 1 to the Report of the Public Services Commission regarding a Selection Committee. Selected Provincial officers will, it is understood, have to appear from time to time before the Committee in future.

(Additional taxation to meet new expenditure.)

398 Q.—Mr. T. Richmond: To ask the Hon'ble the Member for Finance—

(a) to state the cost of the different services before and after the recent grant of enhanced salaries to public officials down to and including village servants; and

(b) to state if the Government contemplate any additional taxation in the near future to meet this enhanced expenditure and to introduce and carry on measures for the expansion of education, improvement of sanitation and development of industries involving recurring expenditure.

A.—The following table shows the cost of the Imperial, Provincial, subordinate and village services in 1917–18 and the estimated cost for 1921–22 :—

	1917–18.	1921–22.
Imperial	59·05	94·09
Provincial	40·02	55·06
Subordinate	299·64	394·45
Village	70·25	114·49

[8th March 1921

The Government look to local bodies in the first instance to utilize the powers of taxation given them under the Elementary Education Act and the Acts relating to municipalities and local boards for the purpose of raising larger funds for education and sanitation. The question whether taxation will be necessary to meet the enhanced salary bill and for the development of industries will be examined as soon as a decision has been come to as to the amount that will have to be paid in the shape of salaries.

Irrigation in Gōdāvari, Kistna and Guntūr.

399 Q.—Mr. A. SUBBARAYUDU : To ask the Hon'ble the Member for Revenue—

(*a*) how many applications for water for first crop were made in the years 1918–19 and 1919–20 in the districts of Gōdāvari, Kistna and Guntūr, and how many of them were rejected, and what the amount was of penalty collected in each district during the said years for unauthorized irrigation ; and

(*b*) to give this information separately for the Bhimavaram taluk of the Kistna district.

A.—The information is not in the possession of Government.

Dyeing and leather experts.

400 Q.—Mr. A. SUBBARAYUDU : To ask the Hon'ble the Minister for Development to state how long the dyeing and leather experts have been in the service of the Government, and what the nature is of the work done by them for the benefit of private and public industries.

A.—The Dyeing Chemist who is now called Industrial Chemist joined his appointment on the 25th March 1911 and the Leather Expert took charge on 1st September 1911. The work done by them will be found in the annual administration reports of the Department of Industries which are available to the public.

Owing to the absence of suitable laboratories in Madras, the Industrial Chemist is working at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, since last August where he has been carrying on research work.

II

Discussion on the budget.

The Hon'ble the PRESIDENT :—" Before the Honourable Members begin the discussion of the budget, I hope they will permit me to read to them the rule under which this discussion is allowed. Rule 28 of the Legislative Council rules says : 'On a day to be appointed by the Governor subsequent to the day on which the budget is presented and for such time as the Governor may allot for this purpose, the Council shall be at liberty to discuss the budget as a whole or any question of principle involved therein, but no motion shall be moved at this stage, nor shall the budget be submitted to the vote of the Council'.

" That is the discussion which the Council is to hold to-day and for the next two days. Honourable Members will see that the object is to provide for a discussion of the budget as a whole or of questions of principle involved therein. The votes on the detailed grants will come at a later stage. Then, sub-rule (3) says: that the President may, if he thinks fit, prescribe a limit for speeches.